



<http://le.utah.gov>

# Utah State Legislature

---

**Senate** • Utah State Capitol Complex • 320 State Capitol

PO Box 145115 • Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5115  
(801) 538-1035 • fax (801) 538-1414

**House of Representatives** • Utah State Capitol Complex • 350 State Capitol

PO Box 145030 • Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5030  
(801) 538-1029 • fax (801) 538-1908

November 18, 2008

Scott Duncan, Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety  
4501 South 2700 West  
Salt Lake City, Ut 84119

## **Re: Issues of Concern for Utah's Native American Citizens**

Dear Commissioner Duncan,

During and after a recent meeting of the Native American Legislative Liaison Committee (Committee), representatives of Utah's tribes or organizations assisting Utah's Native Americans raised issues related to areas overseen by your department. The Committee now writes to request that your department take action related to these areas, and inform the Committee as to whether further legislative action is needed.

The issues raised with the Committee about which the Committee requests your department's consideration include:

- ensuring that public safety officers overseen by your department are familiar with and, when appropriate, accept tribal identification (a contact person may be Curtis Cesspooch, Chair of the Business Committee, Northern Utah Tribe)
- facilitating better communication between counties and tribes in developing emergency plans so that, to the extent possible, emergency plans create seamless provision of services during emergencies (a contact person may be Lora Tom, Tribal Chair, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah)
- exploring opportunities to bring together the Utah Navajo Health System and local and state governmental entities in seeking federal grants from the United States Department of Homeland Security (the contact person is Earl Lee, Utah Navajo Health System ([elee@unhsinc.org](mailto:elee@unhsinc.org))).

The Committee appreciates your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

Kevin T. VanTassell  
Senate Chair  
Native American Legislative Liaison  
Committee

DeMar "Bud" Bowman  
House Chair  
Native American Legislative Liaison  
Committee